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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 6145th meeting of the Security Council, held on 18 June 2009, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation concerning Iraq", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council reaffirms its commitment to the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq, and emphasizes the importance of the stability and security of Iraq for its people, the region, and the international community.

"The Security Council commends the important efforts made by the Government of Iraq to strengthen democracy and the rule of law, to improve security and public order and combat terrorism and sectarian violence across the country, and reiterates its support to the people and the Government of Iraq in their efforts to build a secure, stable, united and democratic country, based on the rule of law and respect for human rights.

"The Security Council reaffirms its full support for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) in advising, supporting and assisting the Iraqi people and Government to strengthen democratic institutions, advance inclusive political dialogue and national reconciliation, facilitate regional dialogue, aid vulnerable groups, strengthen gender equality, promote the protection of human rights, including through the work of the Independent High Commission for Human Rights, and promote judicial and legal reform.

"The Security Council encourages UNAMI's continued work, in coordination with the Government of Iraq, to help create conditions conducive to voluntary, safe, dignified, and sustainable return of Iraqi refugees and internally displaced persons, and welcomes further attention to this issue by all concerned.

"The Security Council underscores UNAMI's important role in supporting the Iraqi people and Government to promote dialogue, ease tension, and develop a just and fair solution for the nation's disputed internal boundaries, and calls upon all the relevant parties to participate in an inclusive dialogue to this end.

"The Security Council emphasizes UNAMI's efforts to assist the Iraqi Government and the Independent High Electoral Commission in the development of processes for holding elections. The Security Council strongly

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endorses UNAMI's continued assistance to the Iraqi people and Government in preparation for the upcoming elections.

"The Security Council congratulates departing SRSG Staffan de Mistura on his strong leadership of UNAMI, and expresses deep gratitude to all the UN staff in Iraq for their courageous and tireless efforts."